Performance of Nationalised Banks

60. PROF M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed working and performance of all the Nationalised Banks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the steps being taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The performance of public sector banks has been reviewed for the year ending March 2003. A consolidated report on the working of public sector banks would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Easing of borrowing costs for States

61. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have mooted a proposal to ease the borrowing costs for States to finance their annual plans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are looking at providing funds to States in the form of negotiated loans out of the balance of National Small Savings Fund;

(d) if so, whether these loans could be at a rate well below the rates for such loans which states contract from institutions like LIC and HUDCO; and

(e) if so, to what extent this decision has been helpful for the States to improve their financial position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.